

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY P:JJSISCO:SBA

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

NEA:ALATHERTON

S/S-O: J. HOGANSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

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NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, US

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR SADAT ON RABIN'S VISIT

1. PLEASE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY
KISSINGER TO PRESIDENT SADAT THROUGH FAHMY.

2. SECRETARY, ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT, WISHES TO GIVE
PRESIDENT SADAT A REPORT ON THE DISCUSSIONS HERE WITH
RABIN. AS PRESIDENT SADAT WILL SEE FROM THIS REPORT, THEY
WERE VERY DIFFICULT DISCUSSIONS. WE MAY HAVE MADE SOME
LIMITED PROGRESS, AND THE SECRETARY WILL HAVE AT LEAST ONE
FURTHER SESSION WITH PRIME MINISTER RABIN LATER NEXT WEEK
IN LOS ANGELES.

3. IN ALL CANDOR, WE WANT PRESIDENT SADAT TO KNOW THAT
RABIN CAME HERE ESSENTIALLY PRESSING A STAND PAT POSITION.
PRESIDENT FORD MADE CLEAR THAT REGARDLESS OF WHAT DIFFI-
CULTIES RABIN HAS DOMESTICALLY -- AND HIS DIFFICULTIES ARE
REAL -- WE WILL NOT TOLERATE STAGNATION AND STALEMATE

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BECAUSE IT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE OVERALL NATIONAL

INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES. WE MADE CLEAR THAT
STANDING STILL DURING 1976 IS AN UNACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE
INSOFAR AS AMERICA IS CONCERNED BECAUSE IT WOULD TEND TO
STRENGTHEN THE ATTACKS IN THE ARAB WORLD AGAINST EGYPT, IT

WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO A WEAKENING OF THE U.S. ROLE IN THE
FUTURE DIPLOMACY OF THE MIDDLE EAST, AND IT WOULD OPEN
THE AREA TO FURTHER SOVIET OPPORTUNITIES.

4. AS A RESULT OF THESE DISCUSSIONS, WE INTEND IN THE
DAYS AHEAD TO DEVELOP SOME IDEAS BOTH OF A PROCEDURAL
AND A SUBSTANTIVE CHARACTER WHICH WE INTEND TO PURSUE
FURTHER WITHIN DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS WITH THE ISRAELIS.
I WILL KEEP YOU POSTED ON THIS, AND AFTER FURTHER
EXCHANGES WITH THE ISRAELIS, I WILL WANT HERMAN TO
RETURN SO THAT WE CAN SHARE WITH HIM FULLY WHERE MATTERS
STAND AND HE CAN GIVE YOU A CLEAR PICTURE FIRST HAND
IN THIS REGARD.

5. FINALLY, PRESIDENT SADAT SHOULD KNOW THAT HE WOULD BE
ENCOURAGED BY THE CONTINUING IMPACT WHICH HIS VISIT HAS
MADE ON OUR PUBLIC OPINION. THERE ARE POSITIVE MANIFESTA-
TIONS OF THIS NOT ONLY IN THE CONTINUING NUMBER OF
EDITORIALS WHICH UNDERSCORE THE NEED FOR ISRAEL TO FACE UP
TO THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE, WHICH PRESIDENT SADAT
EMPHASIZED IN HIS ADDRESS TO CONGRESS, BUT LIKEWISE IN
THE MORE RESTRAINED AND LESS WELL-ATTENDED RECEPTION
GIVEN RABIN IN HIS APPEARANCE BEFORE OUR CONGRESS.

6. SECRETARY SENDS HIS WARM REGARDS TO PRESIDENT SADAT
AND FAHMY. KISSINGER

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